REMARKS

It is requested that the above amendments be entered prior to examination. This Preliminary Amendment is effective to provide a statement that more than one reissue application of Patent No. 5,600,672 has been filed and to identify each of the reissue applications by relationship, application number, and filing date.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitsuaki OSHIMA et al.

Jeffrey R. Filipel

Attorney for Applicants

JRF/fs Washington, D.C. Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 February 23, 2001